

## MEMORANDUM

**RE:** Meeting minutes taken by Rebecca Kramer

At January 29, 2003 Meeting of the California Ocean Science Trust  
Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California

*[Approved at the June 19, 2003 meeting]*

### **Morning Session (10:15 a.m. to noon)**

#### **I. Introduction and Welcome**

Mary Nichols, California's Secretary for Resources and Interim Chair

- A. The name of the Trust shall be changed from California Ocean Trust to the California Ocean Science Trust to avoid any potential confusion with the already existing National Ocean Trust.

*Motion:* to change the name of the California Ocean Trust to the California Ocean Science Trust.  
Made by Mary Nichols, seconded by Burr Heneman, and carried by unanimous vote of the Board.

- B. The California Ocean Science Trust (Cal OST) will be a new independent entity with two major goals:

- 1. Organize, coordinate, and prioritize ocean resource science to get information that California needs to do a good job of protecting marine resources;
- 2. Provide additional resources and raise funds to further the goals set forth in the California Ocean Resources Stewardship Act of 2002 (CORS).

- C. Initial funding for Cal OST provided through an allocation of \$850,000 from NOAA's Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP) funds.

- D. Cal OST will be used to restore California to a leadership role in the management of marine resources.

- E. Introduction of the Board of Trustees:

Geraldine Knatz, Managing Director/Development, Port of Long Beach

Beth Jines, Assistant Secretary for Water Programs, California Environmental Protection Agency

Russ Moll, Director, California Sea Grant Program

Charles Kennel, Director, Dean, and Vice Chancellor, Scripps Institute of Oceanography

James Kelley, Professor Emeritus, San Francisco State University

Mark Gold, Executive Director, Heal the Bay

Fred Klass, Program Budget Manager, California Department of Finance

Burr Heneman, Marine Conservation Policy Consultant, Pew Fellow

Not present:

Honorable Fred Keeley, Executive Director, Planning and Conservation league

Staff present:

Claire Thorp, Director, Southwest Region, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Rebecca Kramer, Program Manager, Special Funds, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Brian Baird, Ocean Program Manager, California Resources Agency

Melissa Miller-Henson, Policy Analyst, California Resources Agency

## **II. Background and Review of Agenda**

### **A. Operational Policies and Procedures (OPPs) Draft Version**

Review for discussion and adoption by Board at next meeting.

Particular attention to be paid to Conflict of Interest and Indemnification language under "Trustees" section with the aim of facilitating Board membership.

Closed meetings are possible but open meetings are likely.

OPPs to be submitted to counsel (either State of California or through NFWF) for review.

Project selection criteria and guidelines will be developed separately.

### **B. Review and Discussion of Preliminary Inventory Report**

Report represents initial attempt to meet CORSA requirement.

No mechanism currently in place to catalogue ongoing marine research and past results in California.

Developing the mechanism for an inventory is a difficult goal to achieve since it is essentially a moving target.

Creating the mechanism for an inventory presents a unique role for Cal OST and an opportunity to demonstrate Cal OST's added value potential.

### **C. Presentation of Proclamation from Governor Davis.**

Garry Roddo read of excerpts from Governor's letter applauding the creation of the California Ocean Science Trust.

## **III. Purpose and Goals of the California Ocean Science Trust**

### **A. Open Discussion for Suggestions and Comments**

Establish a clearinghouse of statewide research activities.

Acknowledge the critical importance of marrying information science with ocean science.

Increase awareness of the ocean and its connection to society to foster sustainable ocean resources for the future.

Ensure that Cal OST efforts are complementary and not duplicative.

Recognize that the Trust's true value lies in connecting researchers to decision makers.  
 Strike a balance between inventory and planning projects and hard science research projects.  
 Initially focus on filling the gaps in the science that informs agency mandates and relating current science to meeting those mandates and regulatory requirements of agencies.  
 Develop a broad review of what is needed and define "areas of need."  
 Define the context of what is needed on an economic basis.  
 Use an "areas of need" categorization report or database to inform a strategic plan/priorities for Cal OST, facilitate the work of Cal OST, and aid fundraising efforts.  
 Engage the agencies in developing a research planning/priorities list to determine what they need to do their job effectively.  
 Define strategic plan for current endowment and beyond and consider where initial modest start-up dollars can make the most difference, including generally considered "hard to fund" areas such as facilitation, literature reviews and intersectoral programs.

**B. Discussion on Convening a Workshop on Focused Priority Research Needs of Agencies**

A forum for researchers and policy makers to discuss what they need, what they have, and how to fill the gaps in between.

A manageable clearinghouse of useful information.

Application of research answers to management questions, to bring together the research information needed to support agency decisions.

Dialogue and exchange of useful pertinent information between agency policy makers and the researchers.

Recognize several ways to organize workshop categories: policy driven vs. policy relevant, jurisdictional vs. time-driven, regional vs. global, immediate vs. long-term.

Suggested format for Workshop: five broad categories, two or three priorities per agency for each category.

**C. Discussion on Funding**

Key questions to ask to guide the Board's funding allocation decisions: Can Ca OST fund project according to rules placed on funds? Does project meet the requirements of CORSA and/or help advance those goals?

**AFTERNOON SESSION (1:15 - 3:00 p.m.)**

**I. Presentation by John Orcutt- National Commission on Ocean Policy, member Science Advisory Panel.**

**A. Summary of Governance Issues (as addressed during the most recent meeting of US Oceans Commission)**

Develop a national ocean policy framework.

Presidential appointee to head executive branch office.

Cabinet-level, national ocean council made up of ocean-related agencies.

Advisory committee made up of all levels of coastal governments, stakeholders, and scientists.  
Use a phased approach for achievement:

Immediate - executive order

National Ocean Policy Act- second generation of coastal management (undefined)

Regional ocean councils

Second Phase - state and local buy-in

Third Phase - implement mandates

**B. Second Generation Coastal Management**

Undefined at present

Need for measurable national goals as guidance

Focus on viability, protection, sustainability

Key role for regional councils made up of stakeholders and working groups

**C. Proposed Program Areas of the National Ocean Council**

Ocean & Human Health Program

Informal Education Program

Marine Transportation Program

Satellite Remote Sensing Program

Watershed Management

Integrated, Sustained Ecosystem-Based Observation System

Marine Mammal Protection

Essential Fish Habitat Protection

Coral Reef Ecosystem Protection

**II. Presentation by the Honorable Leon Panetta- Chair, Pew Oceans Commission**

**A. Background**

The Pew Oceans Commission and National Commission on Ocean Policy are collaborating to provide solid, defensible recommendations.

Pew Ocean Commission membership includes governors, mayors, fisherman, scientists, economists, businessmen, and non-governmental organizations.

A full report, related to the U.S. and its territories, will be published in April 2003.

Goal: to ensure healthy and productive marine ecosystems in the long term based upon land-sea relationships and an ecosystem approach.

**B. Critical Ocean Issues**

Governance: too spread out for effective management (> 60 committees on the hill; 30-40 agencies involved). The result is a lack of coordination and adjudication in the courts.

Fisheries: every location examined found some of the fisheries in trouble; affecting livelihoods and communities. There is a need for more information to make correct adjustments.

Pollution: point source discharges have decreased but nonpoint discharges remain a real problem (e.g., 10.8 million gallons of oil – an amount equal to the Valdez oil spill - reach the ocean every 8 months; ocean dead zones result).

Coastal development: >27 million people will move to the coastline within the next 10 years.  
Approximately 20,000 acres/year of wetlands are lost in Louisiana; California has already lost >90% of its historic wetlands.

C. Recommendations

Structure the National Ocean Policy Act on the Clean Water Act, create a national committee for ocean protection and tie federal funds to the act.  
Establish regional ecosystem Councils similar to Chesapeake Bay Plan, fund science to help establish goals and priority plans for ecosystems and critical habitats.  
Create a policy coordination council with federal authority as part of NOAA and move NOAA from the U.S. Department of Commerce to an independent ocean agency status.  
Develop sustainable fisheries with federal management beyond the single species level.  
Develop tools to protect, maintain, and restore wild populations.  
Separate science from policy.  
Establish national aquaculture standards.  
Back up these commitments with the funds (~4% of federal funds go to ocean research);  
Address the need for new science-based information, knowledge, and understanding.  
Implement large scale monitoring, integration, and synthesis.  
Try to save the oceans through leadership management not crisis management.  
Make the tie that oceans are critical to all aspects of life and aggressively market the concept to the general public.

### III. Board Discussion

A. Where does the California Ocean Science Trust fit and how can it help?

California can be the leader for the national effort.  
California can play an instrumental role in assisting the federal government at the state level.  
California can attempt to help fill the gap in anticipated federal funding short falls.  
California can establish a template for regional coordination on a nationwide basis by initiating a pilot program for regional councils.

B. Schedule for Meetings

Four times per year to begin - January, April, July and October, between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

C. Action Items and Committee Designations

Operational Policies and Procedures – draft section for reimbursement policy (one-day meeting vs. overnight meeting, airfare, lodging, per diem, etc.) for submission to outside counsel and review, comment and approval at the April meeting;

Two Committees:

Policy-maker/scientists priorities workshop committee (Secretary Nichols, Mark Gold, Geraldine Knatz). Will identify one or two workshop approaches - who, what agencies, size, etc. for the April meeting.

Grant solicitation, review and selection process committee (Burr Heneman, Russ Moll, Beth Jines). Will review a draft submitted by Burr Heneman.  
Begin coordination and scheduling of next meeting.

**D. Next Meeting**

Tentatively scheduled to be held at Port of Long Beach.

Tentative agenda for April meeting to include:

- Election of board officers

- Review and adoption of OPPs

- Grant-making process

- Guidelines for reimbursement of expenses

- Policy-makers/ scientists workshop- either planning for or conducting.

**IV. Meeting adjourned – 3:00 p.m.**